

## **REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate informalities in the specification, claims and abstract resulting from a literal translation of the French text, to eliminate the use of multiple dependent claims, and to insert headings to conform the application to U.S. practice.

The present application is believed to be in condition for examination, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Date: April 26, 2000

By:

Edward J. Kondracki Registration No. 20,604

1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500 McLean, Virginia 22102-3833

Tel.: (703) 903-9000